The Urban District Council of Wigston

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1964

Incorporating a report on
the sanitary circumstances
of the District prepared
by H. Deamer, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

R.W. Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

ROBERT WILLIAM KIND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector &
Cleansing Superintendent

H. DEAMER M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

M. JONES

Pupil Public Health Inspector

A.P. SHAW

Area in acres	3,432
Rateable value at April 1st 1964	£891,975
Sum represented by penny rate	£3,795
Population (mid-1964)	24,240
Number of houses occupied	8,192
Additional occupied houses combined with shops	145
Number of houses owned by the Council	1,281

BIRTHS

Live Births	Legitimate	
Male		307
Female		240
Total		547
	Illegitimate	
Male		11
Female		7
Total		18
Total Live Births		
Male		318
Female		247
Total		565
Stillbirths		
Male		6
Female		7
Total		13
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ...		23.3.

DEATHS

Deaths	All Causes
Male	96
Female	89
Total	185
Deaths from puerperal causes	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year	
Male	2
Female	4
Total	6
Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	
Male	2
Female	2
Total	4
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ..	7.6
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	10.6

Causes of Deaths — Year ending 31st December 1964

	Registrar General's Classification	1964 Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1	2
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4	Diptheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal Infectious	-	-	-
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic disease	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3	6
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	7	1	8
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14	Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic and other	12	6	18
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16	Diabetes	1	-	1
17	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	6	20	26
18	Coronary disease, angina	19	8	27
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	5
20	Other heart disease	7	12	19
21	Other circulatory disease	6	5	11
22	Influenza	2	4	6
23	Pneumonia	8	5	13
24	Bronchitis.	7	3	10
25	Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	-	1
26	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	1	4
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29	Hyperplasia of the prostrate	-	-	-
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	-	2	2
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases	6	5	11
33	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34	All other accidents	2	4	6
35	Suicide	-	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
		96	89	185

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

526 children received primary immunisation and a further 533 received injections to maintain immunity.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were two deaths from this disease during 1964. Five new cases came to notice, their distribution being as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	2	5

Three further cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis came to reside in the district.

The total number of cases residing in the district at the close of the year was as shown:-

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	28	17	45
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	2	3
Totals	29	19	48

B.C.G. vaccination was offered to children of school leaving age and the response continues to be very satisfactory.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases were notified:-

Scarlet fever	3
Measles	42
Whooping cough	13

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

No formal action was necessary during the year.

Several elderly persons were reported as in need of care but informal measures were all that was needed to safeguard their welfare.

A REPORT

ON THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE WIGSTON URBAN DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1964

H. DEAMER, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

1. WATER SUPPLY

The water supplied to the district by the Leicester Corporation has been adequate and bacteriologically satisfactory.

Many complaints have again been received during the year of the intermittent rust discolouration of the water and the consumers have been further aggravated by the presence in the water of live asellus (shrimp like creatures). It is only fair to record that when complaints have been made to the water undertakers regarding discolouration of the supply, they have acted promptly to alleviate the condition by flushing the mains in the area of complaint and in the case of the asellus by chemical treatment at the Oadby reservoir.

It must be borne in mind that in using water of differing types from many widely scattered sources, themselves subject to seasonal and other changes, presents serious engineering and chemical engineering problems to attain uniformity over long periods, and keep water charges down to a minimum.

Only two houses in the district are without a mains supply of water inside the premises. These are isolated farm houses deriving their supply from private wells from which water is pumped to high level storage tanks and passed through candle filters before being used for dietic purposes.

Examination of water:

a) Mains Water:

Ten samples taken for bacteriological examination were reported satisfactory;

b) Well Water:

Three samples taken for bacteriological examination after filtration by a household filter were reported satisfactory.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Every part of the Urban District is sewered with the exception of the east part and Kilby Bridge.

To meet the increased need due to extensive housing and industrial development the schemes for extension of the sewerage system and sewage disposal works and enlargement of existing trunk sewers have been pushed forward zealously, and part of these works, the construction of new storm water tanks with a capacity of 435,000 gallons is nearing completion.

15 samples of sewage effluent were examined during 1964 and all proved highly unsatisfactory.

3. CESSPOOLS AND CLOSETS

One cesspool was abolished during the year by connecting the house served by it to a new sewer extension. There are only 14 pail closets, 19 cesspools

and 9 septic tank and filter private sewage disposal plants in the district. It is estimated that at all types of premises in the district there is a total of 9,830 water closets. Emptying of pail closets, cesspools and spetic tanks is undertaken by the Council using a mechanical suction vehicle.

4. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Periods between collections - January 1st to December 31st

Collection Cycle in days	No of times cycle achieved		
	Magna Gang	South Gang	Trade Gang
7	21	14	45
7¼	4	3	3
7½	4	-	2
7¾	2	4	-
8	4	5	-
8¼	2	4	-
8½	1	3	-
9	1	1	1
9¼	1	-	-
9¾	-	1	-
10	1	1	-
10¼	-	2	-
10½	-	1	-
11	-	2	-
11¼	1	-	-
11½	1	1	-
12¼	1	-	-
13	-	1	-
13¼	1	1	-
14	1	-	-

The refuse collection fleet comprises 3 - 16/18 cu.yd. fore and aft tippers and a 7 cu. yd. side loader standby/general purpose vehicle. When the first of the three pantechnicon type vehicles was obtained 8 years ago it was considered that vehicles of such great capacity would so reduce the number of daily visits to the tip for emptying, that many problems would be solved. The increased bulk of refuse per premise and increased bulkiness of refuse have, however, to a large degreee cancelled out this advantage and next year

a compression vehicle will be put into service which will hold approximately twice as much refuse as the existing type of vehicle without an appreciable increase in body size. This increase in the bulkiness of refuse may in the near future render necessary the provision of 3¼ cu. ft. dustbins in place of the present 2½ cu. ft. bin. In 1966/67 I anticipate an additional vehicle and collecting gang will be necessary.

In an attempt to retain and obtain refuse collectors an incentive bonus scheme was put into operation at the end of May whereby each gang of collectors were set a basic weekly target equal to 500 bins per man, excluding the driver. A bonus of 2½d is paid for each bin emptied above the target figure, the total weekly bonus being divided equally among the members of the gang and their vehicle driver.

The Council stipulated that the scheme must be operated within the wage estimates for the current year. Up to the time of writing the scheme has been a success, the labour force reduced by 2 collectors and what is most gratifying the wage bill reduced.

The provision of a new tipping site is still causing grave concern and especially as there appears to be growing opposition, from a variety of bodies, including the County Surveyor, Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, Nature Conservancy in addition to the owner in respect of the site at Kilby Bridge. It is fortunate, however, that modernisation of the sludge treatment process at the sewage works will release land for use as a tip, provided planning permission for the change of use can be obtained etc.

The 15½ acre plot of land on the south side of the existing Magna Road tip, whilst only containing 12¾ acres of useful land for use as a tip and giving only a maximum tipping life of 5 to 5½ years due to its contours, is being considered for acquisition by the Council.

5. TRADE REFUSE

An integral part of the refuse collection service is the collection and disposal of "trade refuse" from shops, factories and other business premises. The charges levied are 10d per bin or 30/- per vehicular hour. 156 premises are at present receiving this service, the income from which will exceed £1377 by the end of the current financial year.

6. SALVAGE

Waste paper is collected for salvage by the refuse collectors at the same time as they empty the domestic dust bin and stored on the vehicle in cab top salvage racks.

Very little paper suitable for salvage is obtained from business premises and at these premises the firms themselves salvage and sell the valuable cardboard and kraft board cartons.

During the current financial year the weight of salvaged materials was as follows and realised £695.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs
Waste paper & kraft board	126	17	3

7. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

774 complaints received

211 concerned infestations of rats and mice

351 concerned defective dustbins

212 concerned other public health and housing matters

777 premises were visited relating to nuisances or defects.

Visits and inspections - Initial and Return:

Accumulations	13
Animals kept	4
Dustbins	465
Refuse collection & disposal	747
Motor repairs and maintenance	43
Nuisances	474
Drainage	57
Caravan Act	16
Clean Air Act	23
Housing	141
Improvement Grants	152
Dirty etc., premises	1
Water supply and sampling	22
Milk sampling	40
Liquid Egg (Pasteurised) Regs.	5
Ice-cream sampling	41
Food premises and Food & Drugs Act	252
Meat & Food Inspection	208
Slaughterhouses & Knackers yard	7
Dairies and Milk Shops	4
Factories Act	82
Rat & Mice Destruction (including visits by Rodent Operator)	690
Infectious diseases & food poisoning	188
National Assistance Act	4
Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act	180
Public Conveniences	77
Pet Animals Act	4
Animal Boarding Establishment Act	10
Noise Act	30
Interviews - Phone	128
Others	81
Miscellaneous	241
Specimens collected (food poisoning, dysentery etc.)	51

Notices	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding 1st Jan.	38	32
Issued during year	21	450
Complied with during year	27	466
Statutory action taken	Nil	Nil
Outstanding on 31st Dec.	32	16

Regulated Buildings:

There are two residential caravans in the district on separate sites. A caravan on a third site was removed during the year. There is onehouse in multiple occupation and another let in lodgings. All these dwellings are satisfactory and well conducted.

In view of the fire hazards associated with moveable dwellings, leaflets setting out precautions to be taken to prevent fires have been issued to the occupiers of such dwellings.

Verminous or Dirty Premises:

The satisfactory condition of several years still prevails - no bug or flea infested premises found or reported.

Whilst this may not be the appropriate heading under which to report, comment must be made, as last year on the problem of dealing with old people who by reason of being hallucinated or anti-social, the former often being the cause of the latter, become a worry and often a nuisance to their neighbours. A case in point is one where such persons refuse admission to their house to officers of the Council and even public utility officers. When seen in the street they appear well nourished, are quiet and cause no offence, but when in the curtilage of their own premises are noisy and abusive to their immediate neighbours. The conditions under which they are living, whilst suspect, cannot be investigated except under a court warrant and probably to execute such a warrant, the house would have to be broken into under police supervision. They are incapable of understanding requests or suggestions, either written or verbal, or cunning enough to appear incapable, but are sufficiently mentally alert to prevent the mental health authority dealing with them.

They are the dread of the public health officers because such officers whilst acting in the best interest of these old people and fearing that they may be lying sick, injured or dead behind locked gates and doors are often vilified and looked upon as interfering busy bodies. The officer is powerless unless he can prove that the person/s he is dealing with is suffering from grave chronic disease, or is aged, infirm or physically incapacitated and living in insanitary conditions and is

unable
to look after himself, or is being looked after by some other person.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963

This Act which makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of people employed in offices, shops and railway premises came into operation on the 1st May, 1964, but the main provisions did not operate until 1st August, 1964. By ~~value~~ virtue of the Act the office and shop worker has now got the same measure of protection as the industrial worker has had for a large number of years under Factories Acts. It is an Act of 91 sections and since its inception the Ministry of Labour have published 13 circulars relative to the Act and an excellent set of Regulations regarding sanitary conveniences and washing facilities.

Your Public Health Department has been given the task of administering the Act and this was begun by the compiling of a register of all premises at which people were employed. Registration was by application and had to be done between 1st May and 31st July 1964.

To carry out the administration of the Act effectively and well which includes quarterly and annual reports to the Ministry of Labour the staff of the department will have to be increased, but I consider that this is worth while as the work will bring about improved working conditions for the non-industrial workers involved. This will no doubt be shown in a better standard of health among such workers generally and sedentary workers in particular.

At the end of 1964 insufficient inspections had, in my opinion, been made under the Act due to the inadequacy of public health department staff and the time spent by qualified staff in clerical work. In spite of this 180 inspections were made and the results are tabulated below.

Class of premises	No registered during year	No of registered premises at end of year	No receiving a general inspection
Offices	29	28	14
Retail Shops	129	128	63
Wholesale Shops & Warehouses	9	9	3
Catering Establishments and canteens	15	15	2
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	182	180	82

To assist the Ministry of Labour to prepare statistics which will be used to study the incidence of different types of accidents and the action which might be taken to prevent them, details of an accident in which a barmaid was involved, whilst carrying out her work were sent to the Minister.

Defects Found:

Inadequate temperature/insufficient heating	13
Thermometer not provided in a conspicuous position	43
No first-aid box complying with regulation re contents	43
Inadequately guarded machinery	4
Inadequate ventilation	2
Overcrowding in an office	1
Insufficient seating facilities	1
Uneven paving	1
Unsatisfactory or inadequate closet accommodation	4
Unsatisfactory or inadequate washing accommodation	42
Absence of towels or other means of hand drying	7
Inadequate guard rails to stairs etc.	5
Total	166

8. PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

One additional licence was issued during the year and now there are three premises in the district licensed under the Act. All the premises were inspected during the year and were found to be satisfactory.

9. ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

This is another new Act which became operative during the year under which persons carrying on the business of providing accommodation for other people's animals i.e. cats and dogs, must be licensed to do so by the local authority and pay an annual fee not exceeding 10/-.

One person in the district is licensed and is the recipient of stray dogs from the police and strays and unwanted animals from the Animal Aid and Cat Protection Societies. This arrangement has abated a recurring noise nuisance caused when stray dogs werekept in a compound in the police station yard. The licensed premises is well removed from dwelling houses.

10. FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960 and FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955

Additional duties arising from new legislation and the natural growth of the residential and industrial areas of the district have made it less easy to carry out the desired number of routine inspections of food premises. In the past it has been possible to make regular visits to such premises to keep food handlers "on their toes" as far as hygiene practices were concerned and see that the occupiers kept premises and equipment in good order and repair.

Whilst some of the factory type food premises, some with their own hygiene officers, are usually run on the highest hygiene principals, whether visited by a public health inspector or not, at lots of the smaller premises reasonable practices and conditions are only maintained in the knowledge that an inspector may visit any day. As the periods between routine visits lengthen hygiene practices and conditions deteriorate.

Premises Inspected	Visits made	Notices	
		Served	Complied
Butchers & Cooked meat shops	29	5	2
Grocers & General Shops	59	3	3
Fishmongers & Fried Fish Sops	15	1	1
Greengrocers shops	19	0	0
Flour & Suger Confectionery Shops	16	1	2
Cafes, Canteens & Restuarants	11	1	1
Bakehouses	4	1	0
Dairies	2	0	0
Slaughterhouses	3	1	1
Mobile shops	13	7	4
Licensed premises	26	3	1
Food factories	8	1	0

Licensed Premises - Public Houses and Clubs:

A total of 26 inspections of licensed premises were carried out during the year and I am able to report that 8 public houses and clubs were found to be satisfactory. At the other public houses and clubs the requested works are progressing slowly and the majority of the major works are now complete. I am also pleased to report that four licensed premises are now solely on pressurised beer, this method of beer delivery reduces overspill considerably making the return of this overspill to the barrel not worthwhile. One of these premises is on bulk tanker supply and so eliminating the use of barrels.

The works carried out during 1964 are as follows:-

General cleanliness improved	1
Sinks provided in beer stores or cellars	3
Broken drains repaired	1
New male sanitary accommodation provided	1
Cellars redecorated	1
Hot water provided in beer stores or cellars	2
First-aid kits provided	1
Impervious coverings provided to wooden glass storage shelves	1
Automatic sterilizer/detergent dispensers provided	1
Adequate drainage provided to floors of beer stores or cellars	2

Unsound Food and Foreign Objects in Food:

Investigations were carried out following complaints relating to the following:-

1) Sink plug in a tin of South African peaches
2) Use of dirty paper containers for ice-cream
3) Pellets of tea dust in a packet of tea
4) "Ropey" loaf of bread, i.e. unsoundness caused by bacterium subtilis
5) Rancid madeira sponge cake
6) Maggot in a tin of Italian Tomatoes
7) Mould in a meat pie
8) Dirty milk bottle
9) Piece of paper in a bottle of lemonade

No formal action was taken against the vendors but letters were sent to the vendors and/or firms producing, processing or packing the foods , warning them that formal action would be taken in respect of any subsequent offence.

Ice-cream:

86 premises are registered for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream and one firm with a fleet of vans in and from which soft ice-cream is made and sold has premises in the district.

41 samples of ice-cream were taken during the year and graded as follows:-

Grade I	34
Grade II	4
Grade III	3
Grade IV	Nil

Owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice-cream and to the experimental error of the Methyline Blue Test itself, it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results of any one sample. Judgement should be based on a series of samples. It is felt by the bacteriologists, and I concur, that over a six monthly period 50% of vendors samples should fall into Grade I; 80% into Grade I or II; not more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV.
Based on this standard the ice-cream sold in Wigston is of satisfactory bacteriological quality.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

Under the Regulations which became operative on the 1st January 1964, no liquid egg shall be used as an ingredient of food intended for sale for human consumption, or imported into England and Wales unless it has been pasteurised. The Regulations do not apply to eggs shelled on the premises where the food is prepared. The purpose of the Regulations is to prevent the spread of food poisoning by salmonella organisms, a common organism of hen and duck eggs. For some months I was unable to obtain the services of a bacteriologist or analyst with equipment to carry out the necessary alpha amylase test, but later in the year, thanks to the Director of the Leicester Public Health Laboratory Service, I was able to get samples tested by his colleague in Birmingham. Samples of Chinese egg yolk, Polish whole egg and Chinese whole egg were procured from bakers in Wigston, but all samples were found to have been properly pasteurised and free from salmonella organisms.

Typhoid Fever - Aberdeen:

During this epidemic in mid 1964, acting on requests set out in circulars from the Ministry of Health, visits were made to all food shops, stores & warehouses in the district, to examine all stocks of corned beef and tongue and ascertain if any tins of such meat from the Argentine and Uruguayian packing establishments, thought to be the source of infection, were in stock. 67 suspect tins of meat were found.

source of infection, were in stock. 67 of the suspect tins of meat were found.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960:

Dairies & Distributors of Milk	Dairies	Distributors
Number on Register	2	29

Bacteriological Milk Samples:

Samples of milk in bottles or cartons were obtained during the year:-

11 were of Tuberculin Tested

16 Pasteurised

13 Sterilized

All samples satisfied the statutory tests.

Meat and other Foods Inspection:

There is one licenced slaughterhouse in the district which is up to the standard required by the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) and the Slaughter of Animals (Preventing of Cruelty) Regulations 1958.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	404	-	-	2395	405	-
Number Inspected	404	-	-	2395	405	-
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	2	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	95	-	-	77	82	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	23.51%	-	-	3.29%	20.24%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	10	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.24%	-	-	-	2.46%	-
<u>Cysticercocis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	-	-	-	-	-

Knacker Yard:

There is one establishment in the district and this is well conducted.

Disposal of Condemned Food:

The following foods were surrendered, condemned and disposed of by deep burial at the Council's refuse tip.

174	tins	Vegetables
284	"	Fruit
250	"	Tomatoes
134	"	Meat
13	"	Soup
20	"	Fish
26	"	Rice Pudding
16	"	Milk
8	"	Cream
29	lbs	Fruit
146	lbs	Meat (at retail shops)
71	packets	Frozen Vegetables
32	" "	Meat
52	" "	Fish
2	" "	Chicken
7	" "	Dinners
1	" "	Duck

11. NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

The law on this subject fixes no standards in definition of what is an acceptable noise or vibration, or what causes discomfort or nuisance. This is largely a matter of personal threshold tolerance and creates a difficulty when certain bona fide steps have been taken to reduce what may be classified in the broadest sense a nuisance. What to some is the quiet hum of an electric motor is to others a noise which they find wellnigh intolerable. A person carrying a radio set in the road may enjoy the music, to others it is an anathema. Until the law lays down a definite level of noise which must not be exceeded in certain places and circumstances, such as the British Medical Association Committee has recently advised on blood alcohol, the decision to prosecute will need much forethought by local authorities.

12 complaints were investigated during the year, 4 informal notices served and 5 complied with.

1) Noisy neighbours
2) Noise from 2 dance bands rehearsing
3) Noise from factory woodworking machinery

4) Noise from household radio
5) Barking of stray dogs in police pound
6) Noise from factory radio rediffusion system
7) Noise from early morning delivery of fish to wholesalers premises
8) Barking dog
9) Vibrations from unloading of barrels of beer
10) Noise and vibrations from metal fabricating factory
11) Vibrations from factory dust extraction system

Satisfactory remedies were found for all the nuisances with the exception of the one relating to the metal fabricating factory. Noisy neighbours were tactfully cajoled into being quiet, the dance bands disappeared from the scene, the woodworking machinery was moved to a rear bay of the factory and the original bay in which it was fixed utilized inter alia as a "noise lock", the volume of household and factory radios was reduced to a tolerable level, barking dogs were transferred to the local Pet Animals Boarding Establishment in Newton Lane, where they could bark without causing annoyance, more care was exercised in the unloading of fish containers and beer barrels and the dust extraction system was modified.

12. RODENT CONTROL

Due to the efficiency of new poisons and possibly the work done in the district during the last decade on rodent control, the trained Rodent Operator has, in addition to his normal duties, done the paper baling during the year.

Sewer Baiting:

There are approx. 740 sewer manholes in the district.

During May it was intended to carry out a full poison treatment of the towns sewers, but as baiting proceeded it became apparent that, due to the efficiency of fluoracetamide used as a poison in last years treatment, this was unnecessary and only 113 manholes were poison baited again using fluoracetamide in a damp sausage rusk base. No takes were recorded indicating that the sewers were practically free of rats.

In July test baits, made up of the same poison and base, were laid in only approx. 15% of the manholes in the central areas of Magna and South Wigston. Again no takes were recorded.

In October, 13 manholes which before the use of fluoracetamide had always indicated heavy rat infestations, were similarly baited, and again no takes were recorded.

Surface Treatments:

Approximate number of properties to be protected	8,690

No. of properties inspected as result of:-

a) notification; 151
b) survey; 60
c) when visited for some other purpose. Nil

No. of properties found to be infested:

a) Rats:-

Major infestations 4
Minor infestations 109

b) Mice:-

Major infestations Nil
Minor infestations 33

(an infestation estimated to exceed 20 rats or mice is classified as a major infestation)

Premises	No infested	Inspections & Re-inspections	No of treatments
1) Council properties	22 (19)	73 (61)	22 (34)
2) Dwelling houses including Council Houses	81 (58)	405 (212)	97 (68)
3) Business premises	38 (17)	114 (63)	36 (23)
4) Agricultural Properties	5 (0)	9 (0)	3 (0)
	146 (94)	601 (336)	158 (125)

Figures in brackets are those for 1963.

The noticeable increase in infested properties and inspections is due to infestations in and around newly constructed houses due to open drains and sewers, and waste food deposited by building workmen.

To reduce infestations of this nature, an approach was made to the local builders to permit monthly inspections to be made of their sites and the carrying out of poison treatments when found necessary. This arrangement is in operation on two major sites.

A charge is made for the services of the Rodent Operator at business premises, but private dwelling houses are treated free of charge.

13. HOUSING

Inspection of dwelling houses during year:

1) a. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act) 708

b. No. of inspections made for the purposes. 1,292

2) a. No. of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932. 54

b. No. of inspections made for the purpose. 74

3) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 54

Removal of unfit houses:

Clearance Areas represented during year:

Area No. 38:1 to 7 Rutland Terrace	7	houses
Area No. 39:34 to 44 Moat Street	6	"
Area No. 40:48 to 54 " "	4	"
Area No. 41:4 and 6 Newgate End	2	"
Area No. 42:1 to 15 Gladstone Street	8	"
Area No. 43:31 to 39 Victoria Street & 35 & 37 Gladstone Street	7	"
Area No. 44:3 to 17 Junction Road	8	"
Area No. 45:36 to 44 Frederick Street	5	"
Area No. 46:24 to 26 Long Street	3	"
Area No. 47:42, 44, 46, 48, 48A and 50 Bell Street	6	"
	56	

Individual unfit houses dealt with

No. 41 Burgess Street — House closed

Demolition of unfit houses

No unfit houses were demolished during the year

Displacement of persons from unfit houses

	Houses	Persons	Families
Individual unfit houses	Nil	Nil	Nil
Area No. 34 Park Road	12	33	12
Area No. 36 Moat Street	7	12	7
	19	45	19

Houses demolished during year

Nil

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied

a) After informal action by Local Authority 150

b) After formal action by Local Authority Nil

Overcrowding

Although several complaints were received of overcrowding, no dwellings were found to be legally overcrowded.

	Houses Represented			Houses demolised		Houses closed	
Year	Clearance areas	Individual Unfit	Total	Clearance areas	Individual unfit	Individual unfit	Total
1956	11	1	12	-	-	2	2
1957	33	1	34	19	12	1	32
1958	33	16	49	20	-	2	22
1959	-	8	8	11	14	5	30
1960	-	4	4	26	4	-	30
1961	57	5	62	5	1	1	7
1962	-	2	2	3	3	-	6
1963	-	1	1	20	3	1	24
1964	56	-	56	-	-	-	-
	190	38	228	104	37	12	153

Your present Chief Public Health Inspector was appointed in 1956, the year the compiling of the above statistics was commenced.

Improvement Grants - Housing Financial Provisions Act 1958 - House Purchase & Housing Act 1959 - Housing Act 1957 to 1964:

The success of the grant scheme has not been satisfactory locally due to lack of both ~~material~~ NATIONAL and local publicity. Due to inadequacy of staff it has not been possible to make house to house surveys which is a form of publicising the giving of grants for the provision of complete bathrooms or even an inside watercloset at houses where the amenities are not fully or partly provided.

	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
No. of premises inspected	7 (20)	31 (22)
No. of applications received	5 (16)	20 (25)
No. of applications approved	5 (16)	20 (25)
No. of applications refused	Nil (0)	Nil (0)
No. of schemes completed during year	13 (17)	17 (21)
Applications from owner/ occupiers	5 (11)	17 (17)
Applications from owners of tenanted houses	Nil (5)	3 (8)

Of the 30 houses improved during the year 5 were rented.

New Houses

Total No. of applicants for Council houses at end of year	402 (437)
Applications received during year	98 (130)

Programme of Local Authority Houses

Erected during year	5 (4)
In course of erection at end of year ..	100 (5)

Total of Post War Houses completed:

Local Authority	944 (939)
Private Enterprise	3,488 (3,136)

14. FACTORIES

There are 159 factories on the register

a) Inspections:

Premises	No of inspections	Defects found	Defects remedied	Notices served
Factories with mechanical power	82	22	27	12
Factories without mechanical power	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	82	22	27	12

b) Outworkers:

The number of outworkers employed during the 6 months preceding August 1964 was as follows:-

No. of local firms employing outworkers	17
No. of local outworkers employed by such firms	84
No. of outworkers outside district employed by local firms	72
No. of local outworkers employed by firms outside the district	47
No. of outworkers in district	131

The various trades carried on at factories in the urban area are as follows:-

Agricultural machine repairing
Babywear making
Baking
Blazer Badge making
Bar-fitting and plastic fabricating
Biscuit manufacture
Boot and Shoe manufacture and incidental trades
Boot and shoe repairing
Boot and shoe lace making
Building and joinery
Carton adaptation and repairing
Concrete batching
Corset making
Cycle repairing
Cotton waste and bobbin recovery
Dyers and finishers
Drum and instrument making
Electrical component making
Electro plating
Electric vehicle making
Engineering - general
Engraving
Football jersey and stocking making
Furniture making
Furniture repairing
Grain drying
Heating element making
Hosiery making, dyeing and finishing
Ice-cream making
Ironfounding
Jersey fabric making
Knacker
Knitted outerwear making
Laundry
Lighting and electronic engineering
Milk pasteurising
Motor vehicle repairing and miantenance
Non-ferrous metal founders
Paper baling
Plant hire
Pattern making
Plastic moulding
Portable buildings
Pre-cast concrete manufacture

Printers
Photographic lithographers
Radio and television receiver repairing
Railway waggon repairing
Sausage and cooked meat making and preparing
Slaughtering
Spring manufacturing
Tailoring
Woodworking and case repairing
Wood last making
Worsted spinners
Wool packing
Waterways maintenance

Factories Act 1961
Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961

PART I

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	No. on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6			
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority		82	12	
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	153			
Total	159	82	12	

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	No of cases in which defects found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found Remedied	Referred To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)		Nil		
Overcrowding (S.2)		Nil		
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)		Nil		
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)		Nil		

	No.of cases in which defects found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Con eniences (S.7)					
a.Insufficient	22	27			
b.Unsuitable of defective					
c.Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork					
Total	22	27			

PART VIII
Outwork
(Sections 133 & 134)

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August list required by S.133(1)(c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served and prosecutions
Wearing apparel - Making etc. Cleaning and washing	131	-	-	-	-

15. CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

It is pleasing to again report that no continuing major industrial smoke problem has arisen during the year.

Your Chief Public Health Inspector continued to advise industrialists,and in some cases their consulting engineers, on proposed new boiler plant, fuels and correct chimney heights for differing types of furnaces and fuels.

New boilers and/or chimneys were provided at 8 premises and the height of 6 new chimneys calculated.

8 observations were made of smoke emissions from 4 premises and 17 visits made to 7 premises.

7 excessive emissions of smoke were noted from 4 premises.

5 informal notices were served and 4 complied with.

The most outstanding nuisance was caused by the burning of wood waste in a crude incinerator at a joinery factory. Burning has now ceased and endeavours are being made to dispose of the waste to pig and poultry keepers etc., as bedding material.

Other smoke nuisances were cased by -

a) inadequate dampers for flue gases allowing escape of soot and ash from a chimney.

b) inadequate chimney height.

c) careless stoking and furnace cleaning at 2 factories.

16. STAFF

During the year a comprehensive report was placed before the Council pointing out that the present establishment of the Health Department had remained unchanged for 10 years, during that period the establishment had been maintained for three whole years only, and that the post of whole time clerk for the department was deleted from the establishment in 1959. Included in the report were tables setting out the number of inspections required to be made for the purpose of good administration at various types of premises, such as special risk food premises, other food premises, shops, factories etc., anticipated necessary inspections in connection with new housing etc., legislation and the deficiency which had arisen in 1963 and which could continue to arise due to the inadequacy of the inspectorial staff.

Details of the number of hours spent by the Public Health Inspectors each week on clerical and filing work, unnecessary interviews and telephone calls, which could be dealt with by a non-technical officer such as a Clerk/Receptionest were set out in the report.

It was suggested that the present establishment of

1) Medical Officer of Health
2) Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent
3) Additional Public Health Inspector and Deputy Cleansing Superintendent
4) Pupil Public Health Inspector
5) Pool typist

should be increased and altered as follows and would then be adequate for the next 5 or 6 years.

1) Medical Officer of Health
2) Chief Public Health Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent
3) Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent
4) Appointing a first Additional Public Health Inspector
5) Appointing Pupil Public Health Inspector to 2nd Additional Public Health Inspector on qualifying
6) Appointing a full-time clerk/typist.

The Council had arrived at no decision at the end of the year and consequently duties in the department are being performed on a priority basis.

APPENDIX 'A'

I am indebted to the Engineer & Surveyor to the Wigston Urban District Council for the following report.

RAINFALL IN 1964

At WIGSTON U.D.C. Sewage Farm

in the County of Leicestershire.

Diameter of Funnel 8 inches

Height of top above ground 9 inches

Height of ground above sea level 259 ft.

Month	Total Depth Inches	Greatest Fall in 24 hours		Number of Days with	
		Inches	Date	.01 or more	.04 or more
January	0.77	.20	12	11	5
February	0.79	.19	16	15	8
March	2.87	.96	14	16	8
April	2.34	.41	18	20	14
May	1.09	.16	1 & 10	14	9
June	3.28	.60	7	16	13
July	1.39	.37	18	12	9
August	1.83	.69	18	10	9
September	0.60	.30	15	5	5
October	1.18	.32	5	19	7
November	1.08	.24	3	16	8
December	2.00	.33	12	16	12
Totals	19.22			170	117